

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claims 1 as follows:

1. A post-processing method for use in a sampled data read channel of a mass data storage device that has a Viterbi detector that receives actual sampled partial response target data from a data medium of said mass data storage device and produces a recovered data output signal, comprising:

filtering a recovered partial response target signal derived from said recovered data output signal and sampled partial response target data to produce a filtered output signal;

BI providing a threshold circuit to provide a threshold against which said filtered output signal is compared;

generating an error event pattern indicating signal when a predetermined error event pattern occurs in said recovered data output signal;

modifying the recovered data output signal when said filtered output signal exceeds the threshold of said threshold circuit and said error event indicating signal is generated, and

whitening the recovered data output signal, prior to said filtering but within said post processing method, with a whitening filter.